

**RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

**Municipal Police Training Academy**

**Community College of Rhode Island — Flanagan Campus**

**1762 Louisquisset Pike, Lincoln, RI 02865-4585**

**Telephone: (401) 722-5808 — Fax: (401) 722-3151**

**Colonel Steven G. O'Donnell Chief Anthony J. Silva**

**Commissioner, Department of Public Safety Executive Director**

**Superintendent, Rhode Island State Police Municipal Police Training Academy**

**Police Officers Commission on Standards & Training**

**Meeting Minutes**

**August 25, 2011**

**I. Welcome and Roll Call**

**Colonel Stephen M. McCartney called to order the regular meeting of the Police Officers Commission on Standards & Training (POST) at 10:30 a.m. on August 25, 2011 in RIMPA-Lincoln.**

**Colonel McCartney asked Donna Lavallee to take a roll call. The following POST members were present: Colonel Stephen M. McCartney, Chief Anthony Pesare, Chief Edward Mello, and Colonel Steven O'Donnell. Also present were Chief Anthony J. Silva, Mr. Richard B. Woolley, Esq., Ms. Danica Iacoi, Esq., Ms. Lisa Holley, Esq., Captain David Ricciarelli, Captain David DelBonis, Donna**

**Lavallee, Major James Pereira, Lt. Paul Olszewski.**

## **II. Approval of the minutes**

**Colonel McCartney asked for approval of the minutes from the last meeting dated May 26, 2011. Chief Mello made a motion to accept the minutes; Chief Pesare seconded the motion. After no further discussion and all in favor (4-0), the motion carries and minutes were accepted.**

## **III. Presenttion by Roger William University Law, Public Safety & Security Career Cluster Project**

### **• Asst. Dean Robert McKenna**

**Dean McKenna introduced Ed Pascarella who is the coordinator for this project. Mr. Pascarella gave an overview of the project which basically is a program offered by RWU. Currently they have Articulation Agreements with eight High schools. Upon successful completion of the courses, the students will receive college credits. He is basically looking for the POST to endorse this program to give it some credence from law enforcement. Dean McKenna stated that all of the funding for this program comes from the Dept. of Education. There was discussion between legal counsel and POST members as to the wording of the motion on the proposal. Chief Pesare then motioned to endorse Roger Williams University Law Public Safety & Security Career Cluster Project with the requirement that if there are any substantial changes, the POST be notified. The motion was seconded by Chief Mello. Discussion followed and as a result, Chief Mello withdrew his second on the motion. Chief Pesare then withdrew his original motion. Chief Pesare reintroduced his motion**

as the following: “The POST endorses the concept of Roger Williams University Law, Public Safety & Security Career Cluster Project with the requirement that if there are any substantial changes, the POST be notified. Chief Mello seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was 3-1 with Colonel O’Donnell opposed. Colonel O’Donnell voiced his concern that the University could potentially receive financial gain with the POST’s endorsement.

Chief Silva asked that Agenda Item 7 be placed on the Agenda next as, due to the length of the meeting, Colonel O’Donnell must leave after this item.

VII. Discussion about the responsibility of the POST as well as its role in relationship with the Municipal Police Academy and the Department of Public Safety.

Colonel O’Donnell deferred this discussion to Major Pereira. Major Pereira said he reviewed the minutes of the December, 2009 meeting where this issue was brought up with then, Colonel Doherty, and wanted to clarify the roles of the POST & DPS. Colonel O’Donnell wants to keep the relationship that stands now. Major Pereira will be representing him at many meetings and speaking on his behalf. Colonel O’Donnell wants the good relations to continue. Colonel O’Donnell asked legal counsel to clarify the Organizational Chart; namely, what is the relationship between DPS and the POST. Richard Woolley stated that the POST sets the standards for training for the various cities and towns of the State. Colonel O’Donnell stressed the importance of being sensitive to the Public Safety model, which includes the Major and a recently added Captain, Sergeant and

**Detective. Everything will stay status quo and remain as it has been, to continue working with the POST to enhance the relationships currently in place. He also stated that the Directors of the Agencies should be relied on heavily, as Chief Silva runs the Academy, not Major Pereira—we need to work together. He concluded in saying that it is very important to keep the dialogue going and there may have been some confusion of the roles of the agencies and therefore wanted to have legal counsel render their advice. He has been very impressed with the POST over the years and commended them on their work.**

**Also, Colonel O'Donnell stated that he had a discussion with the Governor regarding the re-appointment of Chief Mello. The Governor will sign off on that soon.**

**Colonel O'Donnell left the meeting at 11:20am.**

#### **IV. Update on current 117th Session, Recruit class/Academy Schedule**

**Captain DelBonis reported that this is the fifth week of class. We have 36 recruits, the Academy started with 37 but lost one due to an injury and had to be withdrawn by his department. No problems to date, class is very motivated.**

#### **V. Update on Continuing Education**

**Captain Ricciarelli stated we have 27 programs on the Calendar right now and another 20 to be added.**

#### **VI. Update on Certification of waiver candidates**

- **Johnston Police: Officer Edward Gonzalez, Providence PD**
- **Foster Police: Officer Thomas Masse, Providence PD**

**Chief Silva stated that he has received a request from Johnston PD that Chief Tamburini was in the process of hiring a Providence Police Officer. He informed Johnston PD that he must be treated like a waiver candidate because he is not POST-certified. His curriculum was reviewed extensively and we have submitted a letter and form to them notifying Johnston PD of what they must do to meet the standards for certification. Due to Providence not being a POST-certified Academy, it puts them at a lower level of certification. Johnston is currently working with us to have this candidate meet all the standards. Chief Coyne has not officially asked for certification of his candidate.**

#### **VIII. Approval of RIMPA Instructors**

**Chief Silva asked for the approval of four of our instructors: Lt. Jason Allaire-RI sheriffs Dept-Firearms; Officer Mark Mooney-Portsmouth PD-Firearms; Sgt. Mark Ulluci-Warwick PD-Report Writing; John Coyne-Smithfield FD-ICS.**

**Chief Pesare made a motion for the POST to certify these four instructors and Chief Mello seconded the motion. With no further discussion and all in favor, motion carries.**

#### **IX: Discussion on Racial Profiling/Traffic Stops training**

- **Colonel Stephen McCartney**

**Colonel McCartney stated that at some point, probably by January, departments will begin collecting traffic stop data and the concern is**

due to the sensitivity of what was dealt with in the past. Colonel McCartney is concerned with discretionary searches. He is also wondering if there is anything we can do as far as further training. Can there be more done to prepare? Chief Mello said that there are two steps left: To work with Northeastern University through DOT and the mechanics of the software. He thinks we need to develop a train-the-trainer program. Chief Silva stated that we have Dr. Fridell coming back on Sept. 7th for a First Line Supervisors training and then a train-the-trainer class in late October. Chief Silva said the Academy would do additional training and is also working on a training video. Chief Mello would like to see an in-service training prior to January on data collection and review.

**X: Discussion/Approval of Tactical Team Certification: Johnston Police Department**

Chief Silva stated that he received a letter from the RI Tactical Officers Association stating that Johnston PD has met all the standards for Tactical team certification. Chief Mello made a motion to approve the certification of Johnston P.D.'s Tactical Team and Chief Pesare seconded the motion. After no further discussion and all in favor, the motion carries.

**XI: Request by EGPD Chief Thomas E. Coyle III for POST certification of Officer Steven Branch**

**Chief Coyle has notified the Police Academy that Officer Steven Branch has completed the requirements set forth by the POST for certification. The Police Academy has reviewed and approved that he has met the requirements. Chief Pesare made a motion to certify Officer Steven Branch of the East Greenwich Police Department and Chief Mello seconded the motion. With no discussion and all in favor, the motion carries.**

## **XII: Request for POST Certification-RI School of Design**

**Chief Silva stated that legislature was passed, 12-7-21, approving RISD as peace officers. He met with Ken Bilodeau of RISD regarding POST certifying RISD officers. They must come to the Academy and there are approximately nine of them. They are aware that this will be a long process and may take 5-10 years before all are certified.**

**Before adjournment of the meeting, Chief Silva called in Sara Sticht, the Curriculum Assessment Coordinator. This will be her last POST meeting before she leaves this position. He praised the work she has done while here and spoke of the curriculum she has put together. Colonel McCartney thanked her for her work on behalf of the POST as well as Major Pereira on behalf of D.P.S.**

**Colonel McCartney stated he received and read a letter from Mr. Robert Driscoll resigning from the P.O.S.T.**

### **XIII: Adjournment**

**Chief Pesare made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Chief Mello seconded the**

**motion. After all in favor, 3-0, the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.**

**Minutes submitted by: Donna M. Lavalley, Administrative Assistant**